

Town Of Embden

WINTER 2008

PLACING/PLOWING SNOW INTO OR ACROSS TOWN WAYS & TOWN MAILBOX POLICY

Its wintertime and many people are occupied with issues related to snow removal. The large volume of snow recently fallen can present problems for homeowners as they try to clear their driveways. The Town of Embden is concerned with preventing and removing obstructions, such as snow, from accumulating on town ways. In fact, a number of statutes provide for the town to deal with obstructions.

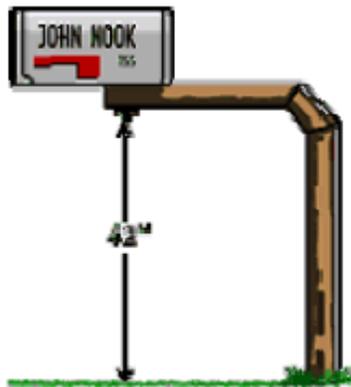
(Title 29-A: Motor Vehicles, Chapter 21, Subchapter III: Protections of Ways §2396 **prohibits any person from placing in the public way snow or slush that has not accumulated there naturally.** A violation of this section and 29-A M.R.S.A. §103 and §104 state that the exclusive penalty for which is a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$500, suspension of a license, or both.)

Please do not shovel, blow snow, or have your driveway plowed into or across the road. This is prohibited by law and can cause serious traffic hazards. If possible, it is best to place snow on the side of your driveway opposite (i.e., downstream from) the direction traveled by the plow. Snow on that side of your driveway will be carried by the plow away from your driveway rather than back into your driveway.

Broken mailbox posts may happen during a snow storm, even though our plow drivers take all precautions to avoid striking them with the wing of the plow.

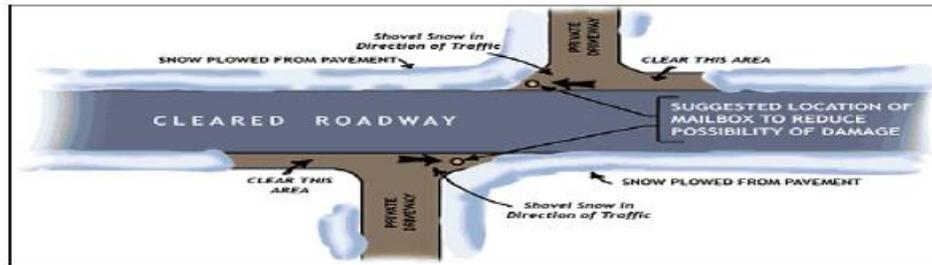
Some tips on placement of mailboxes that will help to minimize the chance of damage:

- Place reflective material on the side of the box visible to approaching traffic, also, 4” high letters to identify the address is recommended to assist emergency vehicles.
- Mailbox post size must not exceed 4” by 4” for a wooden post or 2” diameter for a steel pipe post for roadside barrier safety. Posts that are more substantial in construction are considered “deadly fixed objects” and are not permitted within the Town Way.



Mailbox to have 42 inch ground clearance

- Mailboxes should be installed at least 42 inches high to provide clearance for the plow wing as shown in the above picture. We recommend the use of an extended arm type of post with a free-swinging suspended mailbox as also shown on the above picture. This allows snowplows to sweep near or under boxes without damage to supports and provides easy access to the boxes by carrier and customers.



Locate mailbox on side of driveway away from approaching traffic

- Above you will find a sketch showing the recommended location for your mailbox. Placing the mailbox on the side of your driveway away from approaching traffic will allow our driver to properly clear the roadway and to get as close as possible to your mailbox to minimize the amount of shoveling you will have to do to clear the mailbox for the postal carrier.
- For uncurbed roadways set the mailbox back at the far edge of the road shoulder to provide the maximum possible roadway clearance. For curbed roads the face of the mailbox should be 8-12 inches back from the curb face.

Your participation and cooperation in complying with the above will be greatly appreciated by your rural carrier, postal service and the Town of Embden. If you have any questions, please call the Embden Town Office at 566-5551.